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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Lithuania, USSR
SUBJECT Rules Concerning Circulation and Passports

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1. After the age of 16, every resident must be provided with a domestic passport, in which his social status must be listed. If, at this age, the resident is listed "without profession", the person or persons with whom he lives, must pay a tax for him as for a domestic servant. A passport is delivered for only three years, and its issuance involves numerous formalities. To procure a passport, one must make at least three trips to the center of the district which is often very difficult (especially for the sick, the crippled and the old) due to insufficient means of transportation. Few areas have train service, and then, there is only one train per day. Most frequently, the only means is a truck; people find a space as best they can on a truck loaded with wood, beets, turf or cattle. If the driver is a Soviet, in nine out of ten instances he is drunk. Thus, accidents are much more frequent than one might expect from such a limited circulation. At the office where passports are issued, a crowd begins to assemble at four o'clock in the morning. Often, one must wait two or three days before even presenting the many papers and certificates which are required. These are almost always refused in a scornful manner.
2. Foreigners are not allowed to leave the district in which they live without special permission from the Foreign Office. A normal wait for this permission is two months. Consequently, travel for foreigners is forbidden.

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3. Theoretically, every citizen of the USSR can travel freely within the Soviet Union. Actually, tourism is impossible. One never finds a room at a hotel. Furthermore, one cannot travel without a passport, for checkups en route, are not infrequent. If one does stop at a hotel, he must leave his passport at the desk. Only excursion trips are possible. Space is reserved for members of the Party or, rather, to some of the privileged ones of the Party. The youth in Lithuania organizes excursions for Riga. To do this, they rent a truck and then write to a school where they might be assured shelter for the night in a classroom. They must often wait two or three weeks in order to find a free classroom during the summer vacation.

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